Hal Verb
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9/20/00

Dear Hal,

I answer your 9/14 in less space than I otherwise would because yesterday, in a rainstorm, when I was entering the car that was to drive Lil and me to medical appointments, I fell I now cannot get up unassisted when I fall and I am and have been at age when falling without breaking a bone is good luck. The fine woman who spends part time caring for us came out of the house, where she was getting Lil ready to leave. and between the two of us we just did make it. But my right leg has stretched or has torn muscles and I am to favor it as much as I can. It is now 5 a.m., I've been up for a while, and this woman now gets up early to drive me to the dialysis center. She does not want to worry about me walking in the long corridor to get there from the door and I am a bit more concerned about getting down and back to the car after the strain the dialysis is to the body.

I've never met or spoken to Scovitch but I've never heard any thing from him that I recall to have been rational. Recently I got a card from him I'll copy and enclpse. He actually put two 33¢ stamps on it when one was more than enough. What he is on other things I do not know but on the assassination he is crazy. Because he is not much more than an hour from here I do not want to tangle with him. More than I would have two years ago because we were robbed at least twice when I was either in the hospital or the nursing home where I should not have been and the missing files are rather conspicuous. For the first time in years there is a bit of space in my office files and something of real cash value was also stolen. (Without an inventory, impossible for me now, we have no idea what interested the thief but it definitely was JFK assassination files.) He also took an antique solid silver service for six six that, when we were young, I accumulated for Lil on special occasions. Finding that required prior knowledge of a detailed search. I'm sure that today it would be quite valuable.

If you want to tell Rose what I say, but in confidence, use what , if anything, you want:

All those who, on the subject of our politican assassination, regard themselves as Sherlock Holmes returned, share one particular attribute - ignorance of the established and known truths about which they in many instances just ignore this established fact, which they do know. To my knowledge Scovitch has kept himself ignorant and let his mind run sickly wild. To call his "How Did Zapruder know" is illustrative.

To refer to it as over-ripe garbage is to praise it.

It is based on a fabrication that was proven to be wrong in the first batch of disclosed Warren Commidion record which I examined in the middle of 1966. I had used the conflict between what the two papers published but not in any kind of fantasy. I underscored the way the Warren Commission ignored so much it should not have ignored, like is this a way to run a serious investigation.

Or the truty that is beyond rathional quwstioning has been freely and publicly available for 39 years and is unknown to Scovitch. It is, as I recall it, the result of an investigation by the Secret Service, which it gave the Commission.

There was but the one officially approved motorcade route, and detail on that were included, and in words that route was announced publicly. But when an newspaper artist undertook to portray the route in a drawing, with too little dpace he just eliminated the offset at the TSBD.

The announced route was the traditional route of motorcades in that area.

All the agencies involved were represented and agreed.

I published that map and the text of the actual agreement in 1965, in Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report. (The first book on the subject.)

On the basis of the total ignorance, or what would be much worse, deliberate misrepresentation, this Scovitch fabrication-which makes all he wrote fabrication (and it is no better if it is from ignorance) this is at best nasty childishness that is ugly and hurtful. It also directs attention away from the legitimate issues that need examination and public attention.

It also has the intent of hurting named people and from Scovitch's ignorance of the disclosed official subject matter and from the intensity of his ludicrous belief that he is Sherlock Holmes returned, he intensitifies those widespread libles.

From having ignored the accurate writing and from devoting himself to the fabrications of others who believe that they, too, are Sherlock Holmes returned, Scovitch, who may be serious in what he writes, may even believe it when there is no truth in it, has evolved as stupid, as crazy, as profoundly ignorant and as hurtful a trash as I can remember from all those who have been produced with the same objectives by those with the same qualification, subject-matter ignrance.

It is basic with Scovitch, as it is the with the others, that he, like all of them. begins with a determined ignorance of the available official fact and instead he, like they, devotes himself to this great volume of what is worse than trash.

Inevitably it is widespread libel and it is revolting.

Scovitch does not even known the geography of Dealey Place. He has his needless, his madeup directions wrong. He does not know what the real directions are.

I think you should ask Rose how, when it is publishing on the subject of his specialization of more than three decades,

how he could publish so many glaring factual errors, really how he could publish any of this frightful thing when it had all those obvious, those really glaricg errors in it. They are the hallmark of the atrocity thos terribly had thing is. And of Scovitch's subject-matter ignorance.

Rose's publishing of this frightful, this atrocious, this libelous and damaging stupidity that has no merit of any kind at all, and at this, for him, abnormal length, raises question about him and his publication, serious questions other than those indicated above. One is that he really had no ~~coi~~ choice if he was to bring that issue out on date and if true, that indicates that it is on its last legs. And that he has lost his enthusiasim for it, witness thse great volume of glaring ignorance and stupidity to go alone with the total lack of fact and that based on nothing but an invention, a fabrication, an untruth at best.

There is an alternative, of course, that after all these years of publication, supposedly on the assassination, Rose remains as ignorant of the actual fact as this Scovitch atrocity he published with all the errors that Rose should have recognized as what they are.

My work comes entirely from and is based on the available official record. He has not mentioned, leave alone reviewed any that I can recall. I forced the official disgorging of a third of a million ~~pahe~~ pages of withheld records. If Rose mentioned that, or told his trusting readers what was available as a result of that dozen of more lawsuits, I am not aware of it. Yet with this the record, and with those lawsuits contributing the 1974 amending of the Acts to make the files of agencies like the FBI, the CIA and other like them accessible under the Act, Rose did not tell them that.

Instead he not only was sponsoring, he also defended that outstanding subject ignoramus, George Michael Evica when Evica solicited a paper for a Third Decade sponsored gathering in Providence, Rhode Island, a paper that was to establish that I did all I did because I was a CIA agent! (This being a very sick Evica fabrication, no such paper was possible, even for the irrational superegos that wanted it to be, it was not and it could not be produced, but when I chided Rose for it he actually defended it ~~in return.)~~

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This is a difficult time for me, Hal. In addition to Lil's incapacities and other medical problems and her age, 86, and difficulty in moving, and to all the many serious medical problems I have succeeded in overcoming for so many years, and to the serious post dialysis fall of a month or so ago from which I still have an enormous blood clot on the left side of my abdomwen, I fell again three days ago when I was getting to into the car that was to take us to medical appointments until the woman who helps us and was to (and did) drive us there saw me and came out to help

me up - I usually cannot get up unassisted -and was fortunate not to get sick from lying there in a puddle and getting my front soaked by the falling rain. No breaks but a number of strained muscles and I'm to move as little as I can as long as there is pain. Which there is the morning of 9/21.

With the decades of Rose's determined demonstrations of the immaturity of his assassination concepts and the determined intensity of his endless and undeviating demonstrations of them, and the dislikes he demonstrates for theose who restrict themselves to the official fact and avoid any contact with him and those kinds of efforts, I do not think you'll get him to change now. But I do think that making a correct record for history is worthwhile. Whether or not history ever pays any attention to it.

I am still trying to add to the rather large volume of this that I have done, but out many medical problems and the abuses we have suffered from thos who regard Medicare and insurance as a license for fraud have kept me from doing much. I do have three more manuscripts ready to write and the retyping of I think two to read and correct. With all our medical problems and my age, now 87, I think that shpuld be my priority.

=Om addition, the con roversy on which I used to trhive is not now good for me.

Many thanks and best wishes, Harold

If you use this, read it carefully and critically. I could not stay awake aand when I dozed offf dropped the clipboard 10-12 times. Not an unusual reaction the day of and the day after the dialysis. This will be in my Scovitch file if I am to go over what he wrote. I think you ought fill it our more by examination and comment on his notes. Like getting pearls from a sow's ear